

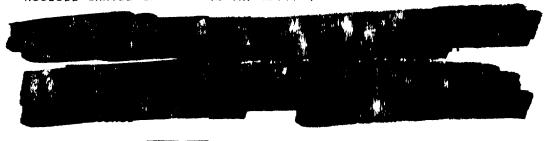
SUBJECT: COLONEL HOSE CHAVEZ CALLRES

TEXT:

FORMER HEAD OF THE FIFTH BRIGADE AND PRESENT SALVADORAN MILITARY ATTACHE TO GUATEMALA.

REPORTEDLY

WAS CORRUPT, INEFFICIENT, AND HAD LITTLE SUPPORT FROM THE JUNIOR OFFICER CORPS. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS THE SUSPICION THAT HE MAY HAVE HAD A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE 1988 SAN SEBASTIAN MASSACRES. IN MARCH 1989 THE MITTARY HONOR BOARD CONCLUDED THAT CHAVEZ, WHO HAD BEEN SUSPENDED FROM DUTY PENDING THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MASSACRE, HAD NO PART IN THE KILLINGS AND HE WAS REINSTATED AS COMMANDER OF THE FIFTH BRIGADE. (THE SAN SEBASTIAN MASSACRE OCCURRED ON 21 SEPTEMBER 1988, WHEN SOLUTIES OF THE FIFTH BRIGADE EXECUTED TO CAPTURED INSURGENTS NEAR SAN SEBASTIAN. A MAJOR WHO WAS CHARGED WITH ORDERING THE MASSACRE HAS IN FACT ACCUSED CHAVEZ OF ISSUING THE ORDER.)



approved for Release

* + NOWOV 1993